

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 TEGUCIGALPA 000055

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR AID/W, PASS COPY TO LAUREN LANDIS, DIRECTOR,
DCHA/FFP, FREDERICK R. VIGIL, DCHA/FFP/DP, P.E.
BALAKRISHNAN, DCHA/FFP/DP, KATHY HUNT, DCHA/FFP/DP,
LISA WITTE, DCHA/FFP/POD
PORT-AU-PRINCE FOR USAID, MAIRE C. LAURENT, FOOD FOR
PEACE, JAN WESSEL, FOOD FOR PEACE
MANAGUA FOR USAID, ENRIQUE URBINA, ERD, STEVE OLIVE,
ERD
GUATEMALA FOR USAID, JULIA ASTURIAS, ENR, DAVID HULL,
FOOD FOR PEACE
LIMA FOR USAID, JOHN IRONS, ECONOMIC GROWTH, ALFREDO
GUTIERREZ, ECONOMIC GROWTH
LA PAZ FOR USAID, WALTER SHEPHERD, FOOD FOR PEACE,
ANGEL VASQUEZ, FOOD FOR PEACE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OTRA](#) [HO](#)

SUBJECT: FFP: RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE LATIN
AMERICA/CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FOOD AID MANAGERS CONFERENCE
HELD IN LA ESPERANZA, HONDURAS ON NOVEMBER 17-19, 2003

[1](#)1. SUMMARY

THE HONDURAS OFFICE OF FOOD FOR PEACE (FFP) HOSTED A
REGIONAL FOOD AID MANAGERS' WORKSHOP IN LA ESPERANZA,
HONDURAS, ON NOVEMBER 17 THROUGH NOVEMBER 19, 2003.
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WORKSHOP WERE THE PRESENTATIONS BY
THE FFP DIRECTOR, LAUREN LANDIS AND OTHER FFP/W STAFF,
ON NEW FFP POLICIES AND DIRECTIONS AS WELL AS THE
DISCUSSIONS AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE THAT TOOK PLACE
AMONG PARTICIPATING REGIONAL FFP OFFICERS. THE
WORKSHOP PRODUCED AN EXCHANGE OF RECOMMENDATIONS
BETWEEN THE FIELD AND FFP/W PROGRAM AND MANAGEMENT
ISSUES. END SUMMARY.

[1](#)2. BACKGROUND

FFP DIRECTOR LAUREN LANDIS DISCUSSED FFP'S NEW VISION
ON FOOD AID PROGRAMMING, AND FFP'S MANAGEMENT
STREAMLINING EFFORTS. IN ADDITION TO AVAILABILITY,
ACCESS, AND UTILIZATION, A NEW CRITERION, "THE ABILITY
OF PEOPLE TO COPE WITH STRESS, SHOCKS AND RISKS", HAS
BEEN ADDED AS TO HOW DCHA/FFP VIEWS FOOD SECURITY.
FOOD AID CAN NOW BE USED TO IMPROVE HOUSEHOLDS' ABILITY
TO COPE WITH SHOCKS AND RISKS. THE NEW CONCEPT OF
INTEGRATING RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT FOOD AID INTO
MISSION STRATEGIES SUGGESTS A MAINSTREAMING OF FOOD AID
INTO BILATERAL USAID PROGRAMS IN THE FIELD. THE
STREAMLINING IS INTENDED TO IMPROVE MANAGERIAL
EFFICIENCY INCLUDING FFP STAFFING AND TIMELY UPDATES OF
GUIDANCE AND REGULATIONS.

LAUREN LANDIS, FFP DIRECTOR AND AID/W/FFP STAFF
PRESENTED TECHNICAL WORKING SESSIONS DEALING WITH THE
NUTS AND BOLTS OF FOOD AID MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING
RECENTLY ISSUED GUIDELINES, REGULATIONS, MONETIZATION,
COMMODITY MANAGEMENT, SECTION 202(E) AND INTERNAL
TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND HANDLING (ITSH) GUIDELINES, ETC.
INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY FFP OFFICERS GAVE PRESENTATIONS ON
CURRENT TITLE II PROGRAMS IN THE FIELD. THE GROUP
DISCUSSED HOW TO INTEGRATE NEW FOOD AID THINKING INTO
ONGOING PROGRAMS IN THE FIELD. THE INFORMATION SHARING
AND PROBLEM SOLVING DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN PARTICIPANTS
AND PRESENTERS WERE EXTREMELY USEFUL AND SIGNIFICANTLY
ENHANCED THE VALUE OF THE WORKSHOP.

[1](#)3. RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION ITEMS

A LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS WAS DEVELOPED BASED ON IDEAS
AND SUGGESTIONS COMING OUT OF THE CONFERENCE. THESE
ARE:

- [1](#)A. DCHA/FFP SHOULD CREATE A CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR
ITS STAFF. FOR THIS PURPOSE, FFP SHOULD IMPROVE,
CONSOLIDATE AND FORMALIZE A COMPREHENSIVE FFP OFFICER
TRAINING PACKAGE. THE FOLLOWING COURSES WERE SUGGESTED
FOR ALL FFP FIELD STAFF (PARTICULARLY NEW STAFF):

FOOD AID REQUEST ENTRY SYSTEM (FARES)
COGNIZANT TECHNICAL OFFICER CERTIFICATION
AUTOMATED DIRECTIVES SYSTEM (ADS)

DAP MANAGEMENT

DAP TRACKING SYSTEM
PLANNING, ACHIEVING, LEARNING (PAL)
ECONOMIC GROWTH
INTRANET TRAINING (INTERIM MEASURE)
INTERNSHIP OR FIELD/WASHINGTON EXCHANGE PROGRAM

- 1B. MISSIONS SHOULD MAKE A CONCERTED EFFORT TO MONITOR WFP PROGRAMS AND INFORM FFP/W OF PROBLEMS OR SUCCESSES (ESPECIALLY IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS).

GRAMS).

- 1C. THE IMPACT OF MONETIZATION ON FOOD SECURITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEEDS TO BE BETTER QUANTIFIED ON A WORLD-WIDE BASIS. A COUPLE OF PARAGRAPHS ON THE IMPACT OF MONETIZATION ON A PARTICULAR TITLE II PROGRAM SHOULD BE REQUIRED IN THE COOPERATING SPONSOR RESULT REPORT AND RESOURCE REQUEST (CSR4) REPORTING PROCESS.

- 1D. DCHA/FFP SHOULD PRESENT THE NEWLY AWARDED INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING (ICB) PROGRAMS TO FIELD MISSIONS AND PUT A SUMMARY OF THE ICB PROGRAMS ON THE USAID INTRANET.

- 1E. FFP SHOULD CONSIDER HOW BEST TO ADDRESS VULNERABLE POPULATIONS WITH TITLE II PROGRAMMING, PARTICULARLY HIV/AIDS AFFECTED COMMUNITIES, VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE OR NEGLECT, AND THE URBAN POOR.

- 1F. FFP/W AND FIELD STAFF SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE KANSAS CITY COMMODITY OFFICE FOOD AID CONFERENCE IN APRIL.

- 1G. MISSIONS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR MANAGING FOOD AID PROGRAMS SHOULD BE INCORPORATED IN THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL; FFP/W EXPECTATIONS OF MISSIONS' ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES (INCLUDING MANAGEMENT) SHOULD BE CLEARLY STATED IN THE ANNUAL CRITERIA CABLE SENT BY FFP/W TO THE FIELD.

- 1H. FOR THE NEWLY CREATED DAP TRACKING SYSTEM, INCLUDE THE MISSION SUPPORT CABLE NUMBER IN THE DAP TRACKING SYSTEM; AND INCLUDE SPACE FOR FIELD COMMENTS IN DAP TRACKING SYSTEM. THE MISSION LEVEL TRACKING SYSTEMS SHOULD BE REVIEWED AS FFP DEVELOPS NEW TRACKING SYSTEMS TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY AND LACK OF DUPLICATION OF EXISTING SYSTEMS.

- 1I. WORK WITH THE OFFICE OF POLICY AND PROGRAM COORDINATION TO DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN THE LIFE OF ACTIVITY (LOA) AND FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL REPORTING EXPECTATIONS.

- 1J. EXPLORE WAYS FOR THE MISSIONS TO MORE FULLY REPORT ON TITLE II PROGRAMS AS REPORTING THROUGH ONLY ONE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE MAY NOT ADEQUATELY REFLECT THE IMPACT OF THE TOTAL PROGRAM. E.G. INTEGRATED FOOD SECURITY APPROACH COVERING HEALTH, EDUCATION AND AGRICULTURAL DIVERSIFICATION.

- 1K. ESTABLISH A VIABLE NETWORK (TEAM) MECHANISM AT THE MISSION LEVEL FOR COORDINATING THE FAMINE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM (FEWS) PROGRAM.

- 1M. HOLD SUCH REGIONAL FOOD AID MANAGEMENT CONFERENCES AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR IN THE FIELD.

HONDURAS/FFP IS INCORPORATING RECOMMENDATIONS THAT PERTAIN TO THE REGIONAL WORKSHOP INTO ITS FY04 ACTIVITIES. HONDURAS/FFP THANKS AID/WASHINGTON STAFF, THE REGIONAL FFP OFFICERS WHO PARTICIPATED, AND THE MISSIONS THAT SENT THEM, FOR THEIR COMMITMENT AND ENTHUSIASM TO FURTHERING THE WORK OF FOOD FOR PEACE IN THE FIELD. THANKS TO THE FFP DIRECTOR LAUREN LANDIS FOR HER PARTICIPATION AND FOR BRINGING FFP/W'S "NEW" PROGRAM MANAGEMENT CONCEPT TO THE FIELD.

PALMER